

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification at page 8, lines 13 to page 9, line 20 as follows:

Assembly 52 has no rocker arm lever 22, and connecting portion 20 of arm 15 is fitted to a fixed frame 53, which differs from frame 14 by comprising a hollow housing portion 54, and a connecting plate 55 projecting from portion 54 and perpendicular to axis 23. On the side facing connecting plate 55, hollow portion 54 comprises a recess 56 (~~Figures 8 and~~ Figure 9) bounded by a cylindrical surface 57, which extends coaxially with axis 23 and inside a dihedron with its vertex along axis 23 and an angle of about 150°, and has a radius longer than the outer radius of outer tubular wall 27, which, in this case, is longer than tubular wall 26.

Connecting portion 20 of arm 15 is located over connecting plate 55, is housed inside recess 56, coaxially with axis 23, and is connected to connecting plate 55 by a hinge-and-cam-actuating assembly 58 for moving connecting portion 20 to and from surface 57 along a circular trajectory. More specifically, assembly 58 comprises a hinge/actuating body 59 having a substantially T-shaped longitudinal section, and comprising a hinge pin 60, the outer cylindrical surface of which extends coaxially with axis 23 and through tubular wall 26. Body 59 also comprises a plate 61 integral with one end of hinge pin 60 and located on the opposite side of connecting portion 20 to plate 55. Plate 61 has an annular rib 62 facing connecting portion 20 and fitted to wall 27 of portion 20 with the interposition of a bush 63. Hinge pin 60 engages tubular

wall 26 in rotary manner to enable connecting portion 20 to rotate in opposite directions about axis 23 with respect to frame 53, and has an axial through hole 65 formed along an axis 66 parallel to and eccentric with respect to axis 23, and which is engaged in rotary manner by a hinge pin 67 integral with connecting plate 55 and facing surface 57. Two opposite oscillation-damping bushes 60 are interposed between first outer hinge pin 60 and second inside hinge pin 67.

Please amend the specification at page 4, line 9 to page 5, line 12 as follows:

Assembly 8 permits disconnection of pump 7 from belt 5, and comprises a fixed supporting frame 14 - in the example shown, a plate type; an a movable support member or arm 15 made of molded plastic material and movable with respect to axes 3 and 12; and a drive wheel 16 fitted idly to an end portion 18 (Figure 5) of arm 15 to rotate about an axis 19 parallel to axes 3 and 12. In the Figure 10 variation, arm 15 is symmetrical with respect to a longitudinal plane P, and comprises two contoured portions 15a of the same shape and size and made of molded plastic material. Portions 15a face and contact each other on opposite sides of the plane P of symmetry of arm 15 and of wheel 16, perpendicular to the axis A of rotation of wheel 16, and are connected integrally to each other, e.g. welded, riveted, or by other equivalent joining means, to define a fork-shaped end portion B to which drive wheel 16 is hinged. Fork-shaped portion B has two arms 15b, each of which is fitted integrally with a variable-diameter cylindrical projection 15c, which, when portions 15a

are connected, extends towards the other projection 15c, coaxially with axis A, to define, together with the other projection 15a, a hinge pin to which wheel 16 is mounted to rotate about axis A with the interposition of a rolling-contact bearing. Wheel 16 is conveniently made of plastic material, and is defined circumferentially by a sculpted convex surface to assist drainage of any water between the wheel and belt. A tubular connecting portion 20 of arm 15, opposite the end portion 18, is hinged to a portion 21 of a substantially L-shaped rocker arm lever 22 to rotate, with respect to lever 22, about an axis 23 parallel to axis 19 and coincident with an axis of symmetry of tubular portion 20.